

Psychomotor Development in Babies and its Improvement in Relation to Some Ecological Factors

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ABSTRACT The present investigation was undertaken to assess the psychomotor development index (PDI) of 400 babies during the age of one to two years selected from urban and rural area of district Hisar in Haryana state. The babies were divided into four categories of age groups, two categories of localities and gender, thus, making a sample of 25 male and 25 female babies in each age group from urban and rural localities. The selection of localities was purposive, while that of babies was at random. Significant differences observed at all the age groups for psychomotor development revealed that formation of different age group categories was appropriate. Male babies, in general, were better in psychomotor development than female babies in rural area, but at par in urban area. Non-significant interaction between age and gender indicated similar growth rate in both genders under urban and rural area. Comparison of localities indicated that babies from urban area had better motor activities than rural area for all the age group. Among ecological variables, birth order, fathers' education and family income were important variable than fathers' occupation and size of family. Improvement in motor activity due to intervention programme was much better in rural area than in urban area.